

522-1784

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE THE APPLICATION OF)
Frank Luyten et al.) Examiner:
SERIAL NO.: To Be Assigned) Group Art Unit No.
FILED: Herewith)
FOR: Isolation of Precursor Cells and Their Use)
For Tissue Repair)

AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION

Honorable Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

The present application is the national filing of international application number PCT/BE00/00120. Appended hereto is a copy of the International Preliminary Examination Report for that application, having appended thereto the claims as they currently appear in the international application. Before calculation of the national filing fee for the United States, it is requested that the application be amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel claims 1 through 30 without prejudice and substitute new claims 31 through 51 as follows:

31. A method of positively identifying viable, expanded or passaged, committed, pluripotent skeletal precursor cells that have entered a post-natal differentiation pathway leading to skeletal

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